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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/936,210	09/10/2001	Trevor Wright	36-1473	2424
23117 7590 07/30/2008 NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			EXAMINER CHAI, LONGBIT	
			ART UNIT 2131	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/30/2008	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/936,210	Applicant(s) WRIGHT ET AL.	
	Examiner LONGBIT CHAI	Art Unit 2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 September 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Currently pending claims are 1 – 10.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the subject matter of the instant claims have been fully considered but are not persuasive.

3. As per each of independent claims, Applicant attempts to modify the instant specification, submitted on 5/02/2008, in order to overcome the prior-art where the amendment of the specification indicates "As is also well known a URL typically includes a file name. Of course a "domain name" part of the URL will also be present and must be resolved to identify the computer to which a request is directed. As those in the art also well appreciate, a file name may take the form of a path name" (SPEC: page 11 Line 16). Examiner respectfully disagrees and the amendment of specification, submitted on 5/02/2008, is not entered at this stage of prosecutions – especially Applicant intentionally utilizes this particular amendment as its unique invention subject matter to overcome the prior-art.

4. As per claim 1, Applicant asserts "In Farber, normal' file names (e.g. US Response.doc) are not used. Instead True Names are used - for example '9e 107d9d372bb6826bd81d3542a419d6' which just happens to be the result of applying the MD5 hashing algorithm" (Remarks: Page 10 / 5th Para). Examiner respectfully disagrees because Farber also discloses (a) "in a typical data processing system, all of these elements can be named by users given certain implementation specific naming conventions" (Farber: Column 5 Line 35 – 44) and (b)

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"list the file name and True Name **for each file** in the current directory" (Farber: Column 18 Line 37 – 41) and as such Farber does teach both file name and True Name associated with a file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1 – 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Farber et al. (U.S. Patent 5,978,791), in view of Brickell (U.S. Patent 6,411,716).

As per claim 1, 4, 5, 7 and 9, Farber teaches a server computer comprising:

a store arranged to store one or more computer files (Farber-8,791 : Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57);

a store arranged to store at least one message digest code (MAC) (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57).

However, Farber does not disclose expressly to store at least one digital signature. Brickellg teaches storing at least one digital signature by signing the document (Brickell : Column 1 Line 58 – 67).

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It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Brickell within the system of Farber because Brickell teaches a digital signature to ensure the authenticity and integrity of a digital content (Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67).

Farber in view of Brickell teaches:

each computer file having an associated digital signature using a signing key (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67);

a receiver arranged to receive a request from at least one other computer for access to a computer file stores on said server computer, said request including a file name for the requested file, said file name not being derived by calculation from content of the file (Farber-8,791: Column 5 Line 35 – 41 and Column 18 Line 37 – 41: (a) “in a typical data processing system, all of these elements can be named by users given certain implementation specific naming conventions” (Column 5 Line 35 – 44) and (b) “list the file name and True Name for each file in the current directory” (Column 18 Line 37 – 41)).

means arranged to use said file name to retrieve said at least one requested computer file (Farber-8,791: Column 38 Line 1 – 4, Column 5 Line 37 – 41, Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57);

means arranged to use said file name to retrieve the digital signature or signatures associated with said at least one requested computer file (Farber-8,791: Column 38 Line 1 – 4, Column 5 Line 37 – 41, Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67);

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means arranged to validate a digital signature for said at least one requested file (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67); and

means arranged to deny said other computer access to the or each requested computer file if the digital signature associated with a requested computer file is invalid (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67).

As per claim 2, Farber as modified teaches means arranged to store a list of approved computer file signing parties; each computer file signing party having at least one associated signing key with which to create digital signatures (Brickell: Column 7 Line 45 – 47); and in which said means arranged to validate the digital signature associated with each requested computer file invalidates said digital signature if said digital signature was created with a signing key not associated with an approved computer file signing party (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67).

As per claim 3, Farber as modified teaches said means arranged to validate the digital signature associated with said at least one requested computer file invalidates said digital signature if the current clock date is later than the expiry date associated with the or each computer file (Farber-8,791: Column 23 Line 51 and Column 9 Line 57 – 58).

As per claim 6, Farber as modified teaches medium embodying computer readable: Code for loading into a computer and executable by said computer to perform the method according to claim 5 (Farber-8,791: Figure 1(a)).

As per claim 8 and 10, Farber as modified teaches at least one digital signature associated at the server computer with a stored file has been created from the file by the server computer using a signing key (Farber-8,791: Column 34 Line 33 – 62, Column 14 Line 40 – 45 / Line 53 – 56, Column 13 Line 10 – 14, Column 12 Line 55 – 59 and Column 21 Line 52 – 57 & Brickell: Column 1 Line 58 – 67).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LONGBIT CHAI whose telephone number is (571)272-3788. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Longbit Chai/

Longbit Chai Ph.D.

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2131

5/30/2008

/Ayaz R. Sheikh/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2131